



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

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This is **Calpeek's** 44th issue of 2001 – meaning it's our last news-
newsletter of the year. We'll be on vacation for the next 3 weeks,
but will return to work right after X-Mas. Our first newsletter of
the year will be dated **Jan. 7, 2002**, but it will hit the mailbox just
before New Year's eve. Although this isn't like other holidays
we've had in the past because of 9/11, nevertheless, here's wish-
ing all **Calpeek** readers a joyous holiday season and best wishes
for the New Year...



CALPEEK's 2001 REVIEW: WHO'S HOT, WHO'S NOT.

Editor's note: We'll end 2001 the way we end each year,
with one of your favorite columns – *Who's Hot & Who's
Not*. There is nothing objective about this column. Now
sit back and enjoy – or scream and weep...

● **Super Stardom on Hold** – CA Gov. Gray Davis(D)
is a *credible threat* to win reelection in '02 IF the lights
stay on and the economy improves...

● **Always a Star** – U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein(D). And
her star got a little brighter after 9/11...

● **On The "A" List** – U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer(D) and
new U.S. Amb. to Spain George Argyros...

● **Newest Star** – U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi(D-S.F.), the
new Demo House Whip and the 1st woman to hold this job...

● **Still Waiting in the Wings** – AG Bill Lockyer(D);
Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante(D); CA State Treas. Phil
Angelides(D); and Assemblyman Kevin Shelley(D-S.F.)...

● **Fiberglass/Fiber Optics Star** – Former L.A. Mayor
Richard Riordan(R) has *foot-in-mouth* problems. Or does
he just need more fiber???

● **Two Older & Wiser Stars** – The Browns: S.F. Mayor

Willie and Oakland Mayor Jerry...

● **These Mayors Want to be Stars** – L.A.'s Jim Hahn,
San Diego's Dick Murphy and Fresno's Alan Autry...

● **Power Broker Stars** – Bush's Calif. go-to guy Gerald
Parsky and Demo kingmaker Bill Wardlaw...

● **A Central Valley Twinkle, Twinkle** – GOP Sec. of
State Bill Jones hopes to pull the political upset of the new
decade by winning CA's GOP gubernatorial nod...

● **Best Bet for Stardom** – L.A. City Atty. Rocky Del-
gadillo...

● **Keep Your Eyes On** – Assembly members Carole
Migden and Tony Strickland; former L.A. City Controller
Rick Tuttle; CA Controller Kathleen Connell(D); L.A.
business exec/travel guru Noel Irwin Hentschel; S.F. Co.
Bd. of Supes chair Tom Ammiano...

● **Rich Guys Looking for Stardom** – GOper Bill Simon
Jr. and Demo Steve Westly...

● **Spinning Stars** – Bob Mulholland(D), Dan Schnur(R)
and Garry South(D)...

● **In Your Face Star** – Demo CA Senate Leader John
Burton, the last of the Burton brothers...

● **Termed Out Star** – Soon to be ex Assembly Speaker
Bob Hertzberg(D)...

● **Thinks She's Hot, but She's Not** – U.S. Rep. Ellen
Tauscher(D-Contra Costa Co.), the only Demo in Calif.'s
delegation who didn't vote for Nancy Pelosi...

● **Gray's Grinch** – PUC Chair Loretta Lynch...

● **Trying to Recapture Stardom** – Demo SOS candidate
March Fong Eu and Demo Insurance Comm. candidate
John Garamendi...

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ANGELES.

● ***Not Ready for Prime Time*** – New L.A. Council President Alex Padilla...

● ***Overrated & Unplugged*** – S. David Freeman, head of the new CA Power Authority. The cowboy hat routine is wearing a little thin...

● ***Gone But Not Forgotten*** – Missing intern Chandra Levy...

● ***Beavis & Butt-head Award*** – To U.S. Rep. Gary Condit(D) and his son Chad. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2002: IN THE MARCH 5TH GOP PRIMARY, THE FOCUS WILL BE ON THE CONSERVATIVE VOTE.

Editor's note: While CA Gov. Gray Davis(D) sits back over the long Holiday period, operatives for the three major GOP candidates seeking to replace Davis will be putting the final touches to their *primary* campaign plans. And immediately after Jan. 1, 2002 campaigning gets underway full time. Here's our analysis & commentary...

...*Conservatives* are not all that difficult to figure out, especially here in Calif. They come in two varieties: the traditional conservative and hardline conservative. Whatever the case, sources believe conservatives make up about 75% of rank & file GOP voters in Calif. They tend to be very active politically, especially the hardliners. And most conservatives share these values: anti-abortion, pro-gun, pro-school vouchers and anti-gay rights. And conservatives are also very *anti-tax*...

...In the upcoming GOP primary, L.A. businessman Bill Simon Jr. and Sec. of State Bill Jones have staked out positions that appeal more to conservatives vs. former L.A. Mayor Richard Riordan, who is courting the *moderates*. Regardless, whomever wins the primary will have to solidify the base in order to defeat Davis next November. And this raises the question: will conservatives vote for Riordan if he's the GOP primary winner???

...The answer is *still up in the air*, but some answers may have been found at the recent endorsement convention of the Calif. Republican Assembly(CRA), perhaps the *most conservative grassroots* organization in Calif. While small in numbers (perhaps 10,000 dues-paying members), this group puts out a primary slate card and has influence way beyond its membership. The CRA recently endorsed Simon, which was a major coup for this still unknown but *deep pocketed* GOP candidate. Riordan got only 1 vote...

... CRA-types don't care for Riordan's brand of politics –

and it really doesn't have much to do with Riordan's past support for Demos, including Davis. It's his stand on key issues (he's pro-choice, anti-gun) which turns off CRA members. "If Riordan and GOP LG candidate Bruce McPherson lead the Republican ticket in November, it would be the end of the world," one CRA source told Calpeek. In other words, our source thinks conservatives might well sit on their hands rather than vote for Riordan. And that's a major concern of some GOP operatives who fear a Riordan/McPherson ticket will suppress GOP conservative base voters in down ballot races. It's that old moderate vs. conservative fight flaring once again...

...FYI: the GOP gubernatorial primary is beginning to get some national attention. On Oct. 24th CNN *Capital Gang* panelist Kate O'Beirne (in discussing the governor's race) caused a mild rumble among Calif. political insiders when she noted that Riordan was going to run to the *left of Davis*. And she said, "He's written that Californians are under-taxed." The immediate buzz: *Where did Kate come up with that???* Answer: from a letter to the editor written by Riordan in the winter of 1991 to Calif. Political Review. Will this Riordan letter to the editor show up in an anti-Riordan tv ad??? Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2001: SPECIAL ELECTION BATTLE FOR WACHS' L.A. COUNCIL SEAT IN THE FINAL STAGE.

Editor's note: When former L.A. Councilman Joel Wachs lost his second attempt to win the mayor's job last spring, one could almost have predicted that he wasn't going to be sticking around L.A. City Hall any longer than necessary. And when a great job opened up in NY with an arts foundation, Wachs resigned his seat in early October. And with that resignation, L.A. now prepares for yet a second major special election battle in the last six months. The special takes place on Dec. 11th. Here's our report & analysis...

...The primary to replace Wachs is a 2-person battle between Demo Assemblyman Tony Cardenas and former city hall staffer and current *DreamWorks* exec Wendy Greuel. A third candidate is James P. Cordaro, whose message is pro-business/GOP oriented. And while Cordaro isn't expected to win, he is important because he could drain just enough votes away to force a Mar. 5, 2002 runoff between Cardenas and Greuel. Right now most insiders rate the battle between these two as being very close, with perhaps a slight edge to Greuel...

...Why an edge to Greuel? 1) Only about a 1/3 of Cardenas' 39th AD is within L.A.'s 2nd Council District, which takes in the eastern parts of the San Fernando Valley. Cardenas had to move in order to run – thus he's open to a car-

petbagger charge. 2) Cardenas is opposed to San Fernando Valley secession. That won't play well here. 3) Cardenas is termed out and there's some recent history that suggests it is tough to jump from Sacto to L.A. (Villaraigosa, Wildman, Roberti, Hayden and Washington – all lost). And 4) Cardenas may have a problem with special interest contributions. He's taken a huge amount of money from Indian gaming interests in Calif. and there is speculation these interests will fund a large independent expenditure effort on Cardenas' behalf. Some of the Indian money went towards Cardenas' brief campaign for Secretary of State. Greuel's campaign attorney, Smith Kaufman LLP, filed a complaint with both the FPPC and the L.A. City Ethics Commission about these contributions. Did any funds earmarked for the SOS race make its way to the current campaign??? That's what this complaint is all about...

...The race has lots of interest locally because L.A. City Council President Alex Padilla is going all out for Cardenas. In effect, Padilla has put his short tenure as council president on the line. If Greuel wins, Padilla could be toast. Both candidates are well funded and both are in the mail, but Greuel is up on cable tv. And both have active GOTV operations. Cardenas is banking on labor, Demo Party and Latino support vs. Greuel who has community-based support + business and enviros. Although it hasn't been officially announced, Wachs will endorse Greuel. That could be a big boost for Greuel...

...Consultant Richie Ross is handling mail for Cardenas, with consultant James Acevedo handling everything else. Greuel's team is the same group of consultants who ran Tom LaBonge's successful campaign: lead consultant John Shallman; cmp. mgr. Julie Buckner; field guru Susan Burnside; and fundraisers Brian Rix & Pat Bradford. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2002: UPDATE ON U.S. HOUSE CONTESTS.

Editor's note: It's what they call fish or cut bait time because Dec. 7th is the deadline for U.S. House candidates to file Declaration of Candidacy papers. This will occur after Calpeek's deadline – so some of this info could change. Here's our update...

☒ **The Condit Watch (18th CD)** – In this hot Demo primary, incumbent U.S. Rep. Gary Condit of Ceres has filed his signatures in lieu of filing fee, but that doesn't mean he's absolutely going to run. Although he's mostly been out of the news thanks to 9/11, Condit was served with a subpoena by the U.S. Atty.'s office – in connection with the disappearance of missing intern Chandra Levy. Businessman Tom Ciccarelli, the first serious Demo to announce against Condit, has dropped out and is now backing Demo

Assemblyman Dennis Cardoza of Modesto. And State Sen. Jim Costa of Fresno also has decided not to run...

☒ **4th CD** – U.S. Rep. John Doolittle(R-Roseville) has a primary opponent in Dr. Bill Kirby, MD. Kirby is a moderate GOPer, who says he's upset with Doolittle's vote against the Patients' Bill of Rights...

☒ **39th CD** – This is the newest CD in Calif. and was created for a Demo in an area with heavy Latino voter registration. The field has 3 solid Demo candidates: Assemblywoman Sally Havice, South Gate Councilman Hector De La Torre and Orange Co. Federation of Labor executive Linda Sanchez, who is the sister of U.S. Rep. Loretta Sanchez. This primary will be a barn burner...

...The L.A. Co. Federation of Labor (COPE) went open. You'd think because of Sanchez's position in Orange Co., COPE might lean toward her in this race. In fact, Havice got the most votes, followed by De La Torre. Of this group, De La Torre is the only one with DC experience – having been an aide to former Demo Congressman Rick Lehman. And he was COS to the Deputy Sec. of Labor in the Clinton Administration...

...But it's Havice who has the most clout locally, having been a school board member before being elected to the State Assembly. And although some regard her as a back bencher in Sacto, when it comes to winning elections, she's been a consistent winner. The big question in this primary, battle is Sanchez. She's yet to pick a consultant and time's a wasting. De La Torre has hired SG&A Campaigns (Parke Skelton & Steve Gray-Barken), while Havice has hired Fred Register...

☒ **6th CD** – U.S. Rep. Lynn Woolsey(D-Petaluma) may have a serious primary challenge from Santa Rosa Mayor Michael Martini(D). Santa Rosa is about 20% of the 6th CD. Martini is POed with Woolsey's vote against an anti-terrorism bill. Woolsey has never had a strong primary or general election challenge. Stay tuned...

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CALPEEK'S CALENDAR OF POLITICAL EVENTS

Dec. 4-8	Nat'l League of Cities convention, Atlanta.
Dec. 11	Special election – L.A. City 2 nd Council Dist. AND S.F. muni election runoff for city atty.
Jan. 7	CA Legislature reconvenes.
Feb. 8-10	CA Republican Party convention, San Jose.
Feb. 15-17	CA Democratic Party convention, Bonaventure Hotel, L.A.
Mar. 5	CA Primary Election.
Mar. 21-23	AAPC convention in San Diego.

CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few items, political & otherwise, worth noting...

■ **CRA's Endorsement List** – As noted in an earlier story, the CA Republican Assembly(CRA) did endorse Bill Simon Jr. for governor. And they endorsed former Assemblyman Keith Olberg for SOS, L.A. Co. GOP chair Mary Toman for Treasurer and State Sen. Tom McClintock for Controller. BOE member Dean Andal might have caused the controller's endorsement to stay OPEN, but Andal failed show up at the CRA convention – big mistake. So what about LG, AG and Insurance Commissioner? CRA went with their own members over better known candidates. They endorsed Ellie Michaels for LG; attorney Bill Crosby for AG; and Stefan Stitch for Insurance Commissioner. FYI: in the case of AG's endorsement, State Sen. Dick Ackerman of Orange Co. has solid conservative credentials, but he endorsed Riordan – and that was the kiss of death as far as CRA members were concerned...

■ **El Toro On the March 2002 Ballot** – For the fourth time, voters in Orange Co. will be flooded with mail and see tons of cable tv ads backing or bashing the idea of putting a regional park instead of a commercial airport at the former El Toro Marine Air Station. The 4th District Court of Appeals in San Diego OKed the ballot initiative – unless the pro-airport backers decide to appeal to the CA Supreme Court. But if this campaign goes forward, Measure W could be important in deciding the GOP primary for governor. A few years ago when he was Mayor of L.A., Richard Riordan was all in favor of a commercial airport at El Toro. Now he's had a change of heart – *it's up to the voters to decide*. Smart move because there will be a huge YES on W vote in Southern Orange Co. (lots of GOP voters) for the park and against the airport...

■ **Nelson & Butcher Launch Firm** – Political consultants Bob Nelson and Bill Butcher have launched a new campaign management firm which will specialize in independent expenditures – meaning they'll never work directly for any

candidate or cause. The firm is called Independent Campaign Strategies. (619)234-2414 or (858)456-8000...

■ **S.F. City Atty.'s Race** – The Dec. 11th runoff between attorney Jim Lazarus and S.F. Police Comm. Dennis Herrera is beginning to pick up a little steam, as the backers of the failed S.F. public power initiatives have now endorsed Herrera. But odd as it may seem, Mr. Public Power himself, Neil Eisenberg, has endorsed Lazarus. Eisenberg finished 4th in the city attorney's primary and he was one of the key backers of the two public power initiatives on the ballot. And Herrera has also picked up the endorsement of S.F. Supes chair Tom Ammiano. Lazarus finished first in the primary with 39% vs. 27% for Herrera. If the turnout is as low as some think, this may help Lazarus more than Herrera. FYI: a probe of the Nov. 6th S.F. primary by the CA Secretary of State's office showed no huge problems, but not so with S.F.'s November 2000 election. SOS Bill Jones says his investigation uncovered "extremely disturbing findings." In looking at some 21 precincts, Jones' probe found 705 discrepancies – missing ballots...

■ **CA's Office of Privacy Protection** – Little known, but on Nov. 5th the CA Office of Privacy Protection opened for business. It's the first of its kind in the U.S. and was established to help State residents address identity theft and other privacy issues. The office was created by SB 29 (Steve Peace) and signed last year by Gov. Davis...

CALPEEK's NEW JOBS AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● A sad note: Hunter McPherson, the 27 year-old son of State Sen. Bruce McPherson, was shot and killed on Nov. 17th while walking in front of his home in the Potrero Hill's area of S.F. Robbery suspected. R.I.P...

● U.S. Rep. Buck McKeon(R-Santa Clarita) has been appointed to the Nat'l Council of the Arts...

● Campaign & pr consultant Kelly Hayes-Raitt has been elected to the Bd. of Directors of the L.A. chpt. of the League of Conservation Voters.

● The L.A. office of Weber Shandwick won two PRISM Awards from the L.A. chpt of PRSA. The W-S top award was in the public affairs category for its work on behalf of the L.A. Police Protective League...

